



K A N S A S

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Caring for Pets and Livestock in an Emergency

When preparing for a potential emergency, don't forget to consider pets and livestock. Here are some ideas for preparing to protect your animals during a disaster:

- ❑ Talk to your veterinarian about evacuation and emergency care for your animals.
- ❑ Identify an emergency animal shelter location nearby: kennels, adjoining farms, state and local fairgrounds, etc.
- ❑ Get to know the policies and staff of your local animal control authority, as well as the local animal non-profit rescue and care groups.
- ❑ Ask neighbors and friends to evacuate your animals if a disaster strikes when you are away.
- ❑ License your pets and companion animals; make sure your animals can be easily identified so they can be reunited with you after the disaster; and keep all vaccinations current.
- ❑ Take pictures of you with your animals to show proof of ownership in case you are separated.
- ❑ Have a copy of medical records for your animals on hand.
- ❑ Prepare an evacuation plan for livestock. Your plan should include a list of resources such as trucks, trailers, pasture and/or feed which might be needed in an evacuation, as well as a designated person who will unlock gates and doors and make your farm, ranch or other facility easily accessible to emergency personnel. Make sure everyone who lives, works or boards at your barn is familiar with the plan.
- ❑ If you must leave animals behind, post a highly visible sign (either on a window or a door) letting rescue workers know the breed and number of animals that remain. Leave plenty of food and water.
- ❑ If your animal becomes lost, immediately call or visit the nearest animal shelter or emergency post.
- ❑ If you find a lost animal, notify the local animal shelter as soon as possible and be prepared to give a full description of the animal (i.e., color, breed, sex) and its location.

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